noranda for the Guidance of Railroad Officials, Health Officers, Physicians and Others,

RELATIVE TO WHAT ARE

Communicable Diseases Dangerous to the Public Health."

*With reference especially to Act 45, Laws of 1895.**

8] **[Leaflet issued by the Michigan State Board of Health.]**

[FIRST EDITION DECEMBER 10, 1895.]

To properly provide for the transportation of sick persons and dead dies in a manner which will avoid the spread of dangerous communi- ble diseases, is an important item in the restriction of such diseases. order to save a little time and avoid effort in giving notice and obtain- g permits, it is quite a common occurrence for interested persons to *guise the real cause of sickness or of death.*

Dangerous communicable diseases often exist, when nothing is done the physician, the householder, or the health officer, for their restric- n, because physicians not only do not always report them to the health cer, but sometimes call these cases by names which are not usually derstood to specify a "disease dangerous to the public health."

The legislature having enacted Act 45, laws of 1895, the State Board of alth has thought it an opportune time to place before railroad officials, alth officers, physicians, and the people generally, a statement of just at are "communicable diseases dangerous to the public health," as the rase is in that law; and, as well, a few of the ways in which the public- alth interests are being disregarded by unscrupulous persons; and also suggest how the public may be better guarded from such diseases:—

Document No. 226, issued by the Michigan State Board of Health, says: n Michigan the most dangerous communicable diseases, named in the der of their importance as causes of deaths, are consumption, pneumonia, luenza,† diphtheria, typhoid fever, scarlet fever, measles, whooping- gh and small-pox." Cholera is named in the Act 45, laws of 1895. her dangerous communicable diseases are: glanders, rabies, tetanus, hus fever, yellow fever, puerperal fever, erysipelas, cerebro-spinal men- itis, and German measles (sometimes called rötheln).

Most of these dangerous communicable diseases are sometimes called by ner names. As examples, consumption is called phthisis, phthisis pulmo- is, tuberculosis, marasmus, etc.; pneumonia is called inflammation of lungs, lung fever, etc.; influenza is sometimes called grip; diphtheria called croup, heart failure, etc.; typhoid fever is called typho-malarial, larial, remittent, etc.; scarlet fever is called scarlatina, canker-rash, etc.; erperal fever is called peritonitis; small-pox is called variola and varioloid; bies is usually called hydrophobia; tetanus is commonly called lock-jaw.

Act 45, Laws of 1895, is as follows:

act to prevent the introduction of a dangerous communicable disease in any township, city or village in Michigan, except under specified regulations.

ECTION 1. *The People of the State of Michigan enact,* That no person sick with lera, small-pox, diphtheria, scarlet fever or any other communicable disease danger- to the public health, no corpse of a person dead from one of the above-named ases, or from any other communicable disease dangerous to the public health, and rticle which has been infected or is liable to propagate or convey any such disease, ll come or be brought into any township, city or village in Michigan, without the cial permit of the board of health or of the health officer of said township, city or age, and then only under the supervision of the health officer of said township, or village.

EC. 2. Whoever shall violate the provisions of section one of this act, or the order he health officer made in pursuance thereof, shall, on conviction, be deemed guilty a misdemeanor, and shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred lars, or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding three months, or by both l fine and imprisonment.

pproved March 29, 1895. In effect on and after August 30, 1895.

Up to the year 1889, influenza caused few deaths in Michigan; but in 1890, 1891 and 2, the deaths reported from it averaged over 1,000 per year.

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Whenever the cause of sickness or of death is stated as one of the abo mentioned diseases or conditions, even if the local physician does cert that it is "not contagious," the provisions of Act No. 45, laws of 18 and other laws for the restriction of disease should be enforced; also every case of any "fever of doubtful origin continuing more than sev days," also in every case of any fever which proves fatal; also in eve case of membranous croup, and any croup which proves fatal.

Instances have been reported to this office where an unqualified pers signed the special permit "required by Act 45, Laws of 1895." Care should taken by every person responsible for the movement of a sick or an infect person, corpse, or article, that the required "special permit" be signed by official legally qualified to do so. It should be signed by the health offic

Every person responsible for the introduction into any locality of person sick with a dangerous communicable disease, or a body dead such disease, should give to the health officer of that locality, timely not of the prospective entry of such person or body, in order that the hea officer may, as the law requires, supervise the entry of such diseased p son or such dead body into his jurisdiction.

SEC. 14. The Board of Health may grant permits for the removal of any nuisance, fected article, or sick person within the limits of their township, [city or village,–Act of 1879] when they shall think it safe and proper so to do. §1646, Howell's Statu

From this it will be seen that a permit by the board of health for t removal of an infected article, dead body, or sick person *is good only wit the limits of the township, city or village in which the permit is grant*

No health officer or board of health should permit the removal another jurisdiction in Michigan of a person sick with or dead from disease declared by the Michigan State Board of Health to be a "dise dangerous to the public health" without first seeing the "special permi of the health officer of the township, city or village to which it is propos to move the sick person or dead body, nor until the health officer of t place to which the infected person or body is to go has had such notice the time of the prospective arrival of the person or body as will enal him to supervise the entry and disposal as the law provides.

Every railroad or other transportation agent at the point of destinati of any such sick person or dead body should notify the health officer of locality, or know that he has been notified, of the arrival, and if possi of the prospective arrival of a person or body which under Act 45, La of 1895, requires the supervision of such health officer.

Every railroad agent or other person receiving an application for t transportation of any sick person or dead body, should first learn from t health officer or other legal health authority of the city, village or tow ship where such application is made, the disease from which the person suffering or which caused the death of such body. If such sickness death is or has been caused by some disease declared by the Michig State Board of Health to be "dangerous to the public health," such r road or other transportation agent should refuse to transport such s person or dead body until by telegram or otherwise a special permit sh have been procured from the health officer of the township, city or vill to which such dead body or sick person is sought to be transported. Su railroad or other transportation agent should refuse to transport such s person or dead body until convinced that the health officer of the place destination has had such notice of the prospective entry into his jurisd tion as will enable him to supervise its entry, as the law provides.

By direction of the State Board of Health.

Very respectfully,

HENRY B. BAKER,
Secretary

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE
MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF HEALTH,
Lansing, Mich., Dec. 10, 1895.